

AMBITION TO DO GOOD.

An unhalloved and selfish ambition is injurious, and ought not to be fanned up in our own bosoms, nor encouraged in the opening minds of the young; but when you have said all you can against an ambitious desire for glorious achievement and signal deeds of daring which seeks to distinguish ourselves above our fellows, there is still something in the soul of man, deathless as the soul itself, which reaches upward for greatness of some kind.—It may be seen in the boy and in the man, giving meaning and truth to the poet:

"It seeks the chamber of the gifted boy,  
And lifts his humble window and comes in;  
And ever as he shuts his waddered eyes,  
The phantom comes, and lays upon his lids  
A spell that murders sleep, and in his ear  
Whispers a deathless word, and in his brain  
Breathes a fierce thirst no water will alley."

If, then, this going out of the soul after greatness be natural, a very property of the mind, we have only to give to it a right direction, and it will invariably accomplish something good. We need not seek to destroy the soul's powers, or wish them to lie dormant; they cannot be destroyed, they will not sleep; we have only to consecrate them to the accomplishment of good. The soul is restive under restraint; like fires under ground, the workings of mind are toward some grand action, good or bad; you can't smother the flame, but may give it direction. Mind must and will be active; it thirsts for daring action; it is ambitious to do and out-do; but goodness will always qualify the greatness which a renewed soul burns to accomplish. It is not dangerous to be ambitious to do good.—*Morning Star.*

LATEST NEWS.

The news received by the intermediate overland mail is of the highest importance. The English arms in India have regained complete ascendancy—and all the disastrous effects of former defeats appear to have been entirely retrieved, and all the prisoners rescued with one exception. Afghanistan has again acknowledged the supremacy of the British power.

The war in China is terminated. A treaty of peace has been concluded between the Emperor of China and Sir Henry Pottinger, in behalf of the Queen of England. An attack was made by the British forces upon Chin Keangfoo—which, after a gallant defence, was surrendered. The British then proceeded toward Nankin, which place they prepared to attack, when a truce was immediately solicited by the Chinese. An Embassy was sent to meet and treat with the British—the result of which was the negotiation of a treaty, which was signed on board H. M. S. *Cornwallis*. The Chinese are to pay the British \$21,000,000, in four annual instalments—the principal trading ports in China to be thrown open to British trade—the Island of Hong-Kong to be unconditionally ceded to the British—Chusan, &c. to be held as security for the payment, &c.

There have recently been serious insurrectionary movements in Barcelona, and a murderous affray had taken place. The women were as active as the men. They threw every description of missiles at the troops, whose leader had his horse killed under him by a chest of drawers cast from a window.

Reports were received that at the next session of the British Parliament, the sliding scale would be abandoned, and a permanent duty of 8s. upon foreign wheat would be established.

We give the following review of the commercial and monetary transactions from *Wilmer's News Letter*, of the 4th instant:

We have much pleasure in being able to record a decided improvement in almost every department of trade in the produce markets during the past week, arising from the intelligence from the East, which appears to have imparted a stimulus to commerce generally, and caused a sensation unknown of late years, though at present, as regards the opening of the trade with China, it is impossible to speak with any thing like confidence as to the probable result; but from the vast population of that country it appears to be the general impression that a wide field will be opened for the consumption of British goods; and in consequence almost all raw article required in the consumption of our manufac-

tures have more or less excited the attention of speculators, and very extensive business has been done by them; the Home Trade has also purchased with some confidence, and, altogether, the markets since our last have assumed a very animated appearance. Tea has, of course, furnished a striking contrast to the foregoing articles, inasmuch as a complete panic has pervaded the market, in anticipation of a much larger and more regular supply of the article in future, while the quantity on hand is equal to the about twelve months consumption. Previous to the receipt of the Chinese news, the Liverpool cotton market was dull, and prices very much depressed; but since, it has worn a very animated appearance, and business on a large scale has been transacted. Prices have improved, and may be quoted fully one farthing per pound higher for all descriptions, than at the date of the sailing of the last steamer. The trade in the manufacturing districts have also undergone a decided improvement; we have every reason to believe that the present healthy state of the cotton market will continue at least for a time. In American provisions there is at present but little business going forward.

There has been a better feeling in the timber market, and prices have rather improved. Quebec red pine brought 1s. 9d. per foot white pine at 1s. 4d.

In flour and wheat there is little change.

A wild and fearful story of mutiny and death on board a United States gun-boat named the *Sonars*, has been published in the New York papers. A young midshipman named Spencer had, appears, seduced some of the men into a plot to murder the officers, seize the vessel, and cruise as pirates for the New York pack-trading ships. The plot was, however, discovered, and after proof of their delinquency and confession of guilt, Spencer and two men were hanged from the yard arm, and a number more brought to the United States for trial.

The health of His Excellency the Governor General has much improved.

MONTREAL PRICES CURRENT.—Dec. 24.

ASHES—Pot . . . . .	24s 6d	BEEF—Mess . . . . .	\$10
Pearl . . . . .	25s 0d	Prime Mess . . . . .	8
FLOUR—Fine . . . . .	21s 3d	Prime . . . . .	6
U. States . . . . .	22s 0d	TALLOW . . . . .	5d
WHEAT . . . . .	4s	BUTTER—Salt . . . . .	6d a lb
OAT-MEAL . . . . .	8s per cwt.	CHEESE . . . . .	4d a lb
PORK—Mess . . . . .	\$10	EXCHANGE—London 9 1/2 p. ct.	
P. Mess . . . . .	\$8	N. York . . . . .	2 1/2
Prime . . . . .	\$6	Canada W. I a	
LARD . . . . .	4d a 1/2 p. lb.		

MONIES RECEIVED ON ACCOUNT OF

*Advocate*—E. Webster, Gannanoque, 15s; Sundries, Montreal, £2 10s; J. Cobben, Inverness, 5s 10d; J. Chamberlain, Abbotsford, 15s; J. Wilson, Haldimand, £3 10s.

*Donations and Subscriptions*—Sherbrooke Society, £5 10s 3/4; D. Cattanach, Loehel, 5s; Temperance Society, Royal Canada Rifle Regiment, Drummondville, £2 10s; Indian Lands Society, R. Cranford, St. John N. B., 7s 5d; the following collected in Montreal, James Scott, £1 5s; Rev. H. Wilkes, £1; J. J. Orr, £25; J. Keller, £10; T. B. Anderson, £1 5s; G. Hagg, £1; J. Smith, £1 5s; J. Wood, 5s; J. D. Bernard, 5s; J. & J. Roy, 10s; J. Dods, 10s; R. Corse, £5; W. Robertson, £1 5s; D. P. Ross, £1; J. Barry, 10s; H. Thompson, 5s; G. Johnston, 5s; A. Stevenson, 5s; W. McDougall, 5s; G. H. McLennan, 5s; Mr. Clearand, 5s; R. Morton, £2 10s; Sundries, £1 5s; Hinchbrook Society, £1; James Cooper, Montreal, £1; B. L. man, £5; D. Fisher, £1 5s; C. Shrimpton, 2s 6d; a Friend, 5s; Mrs. Ostell, 5s; Sundries, 6s 3d.

*Arrears*—J. Chamberlain, Abbotsford, 10s.

*This paper is sent gratuitously to all Ministers of Religion and School Teachers in Canada, as also to many Ministers and other influential persons in Great Britain, Ireland, and the United States—all of whom are respectfully requested to read and circulate it.*